



December 31, 2008

Howard Kessler, Chairman
Wakulla County Board of Commissioners

Dear Mr. Kessler

The North Florida Regional Domestic Security Task Force (NFRDSTF) is comprised of 13 counties, including your county. Subject matter experts from the NFRDSTF have been working for over a year to receive a Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for the purpose of enhancing radio Interoperable Communications (IO) within the 13 county region (Region 2). In the spring of this year, Region 2 was notified that it will receive \$3,850,000 from the PSIC grant. The grant period is three years and is scheduled to end in September of 2010, which is 21 months from now. Because the funds have not yet been released, we are requesting an extension until September of 2011.

The grant amount will pay for the procurement, operations and sustainment of the Region 2 radio IO Communication solution until the end of the grant period. The specific equipment requested by the Region includes two transportable communications trailers equipped with radio equipment as well as a number of fixed 700 MHz three-channel sites. The NFRDSTF is actively seeking locations to install the fixed 700 MHz three-channel sites and your new tower in Crawfordville is an ideal location.

Should Wakulla County choose to accept a three-channel 700 MHz site, the sustainment costs for this equipment will be paid for by the PSIC grant until it expires in September 2010, or September 2011 if we are allowed the extension discussed earlier. The sustainment costs includes items such as telephone line connectivity to the Master site located in Leon County, equipment maintenance and technology software refreshes. After the PSIC grant funds expire, the annual sustainment costs would become the responsibility of Wakulla County and would be \$20,420 annually. One other point to note is that on December 17th in a meeting with members of the State Grant Administrative Staff, the question was asked "What happens to the equipment once the grant expires?" Mr. Chuck Hagan of the State of Florida's Division of Emergency Management replied that "the equipment would become the property of the recipient."

In previous discussions with your County, inquires have been made regarding increasing the number of channels for the 700 MHz site from three to five. Motorola is currently working to develop these costs and will provide them as soon as they are available. Our plan is to have the PSIC grant also cover the cost of the additional channels.

Additionally, please note that the NFRDSTF is in the process of modifying the original PSIC grant Investment Justification to include 60 mobile and/or portable radios with each three-channel 700 MHz fixed site. Should you decide to accept a five-channel site instead, the number of mobile and/or portable radios would increase to 100. Currently no subscriber equipment is included with a fixed site. The NFRDSTF hopes to have an answer to this proposed grant modification within the next month.

We hope that this letter answers many of the questions you may have and that Wakulla County chooses to participate by housing a three-channel, or perhaps a five-channel 700 MHz fixed site. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or clarifications.

Sincerely,

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